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Today's Topics:
                         OSCAR MODE S

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 13 Apr 94 23:39:09 GMT
From: mdisea!mothost!schbbs!news@uunet.uu.net
Subject: OSCAR MODE S
To: ham-space@ucsd.edu

In article <Xy6Jkc1w165w@barf80.nshore.org>, wb8k@barf80.nshore.org (Dennis
jakubisin) says:
>
>Anyone know of an inexpensive (less that the $300+ commercial converters)
>way to get on Mode S. How about converting some of the TVRO LNA/B's down
>in freq??

TVRO LNA's are a bit unstable for narrow band signal work. The two most
popular approaches to getting on Mode S are the SSB electronics 2.4 GHz
down-converter or the Down East Microwave (DEM) down-converter. I operate on
Mode S using the DEM setup. I use a three foot Ku dish (Wineguard) , a
DEM low noise preamp and the DEM down-converter. The preamp is needed
due to the length of coax between the dish feed and the weather proof
housing I use for the down-converter. The SSB reportedly is weather-proof
and can be mount at the feed point of the antenna. The cost of the DEM gear
is ~$140 for the preamp and ~200 for the down-converter, if my memory serves
me. The SSB system is about $400, as I remember. Down East Microwave

advertises in QST as does the US rep for SSB Electronics.

Good luck!

Ned Stearns
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